

Here are my random weekly ramblings.

1. Study Jams: **Study Jams** is an online learning tool by Scholastic. It was created with the intention of teaching math and science to grades 3-6. Its use of real-world examples allows for the application into everyday life and the assistance to classes and school to become easier. Study Jams uses interactive study techniques such as karaoke, videos, and tutorials. It can be used at home by parents or at school, either by teachers or in the library.

2. Webcast: Scholastic is offering a live webcast from Plimoth Plantation on November 16. It is a 30 minute live virtual field trip to meet a Pilgrim and a Wampanoag. If you register, Your class will also receive a series of letters from a Pilgrim and a Wampanoag.

3. Iceberg Kids: This app will work on the ipad or the ipod touch. Iceberg kids is a great eReader for beginning and emergent readers. The titles available are popular with kids and range from Sesame Street, Curious George, Mr. Men, Veggie Tales, Todd Parr, Candlewick, and kindermusik. The additional titles can be purchased directly from iTunes. My favorite feature of the Iceberg app is the ability to record. In a classroom setting, students can record themselves reading and listen back for fluency practice. You can find it in the itunes app store.

4. Word Tree: This is a great game to practice sounds and words on the interactive whiteboard. It is very flexible based on your classroom needs. Type in short vowel and long vowels and have the students take turns moving all the short vowel words to one side of the tree and all the long vowel words to the other side. Or, type in spelling words and have students move the apples into alphabetical order. Or, type in science vocabulary and students can categorize words on the tree

based on similarities. You can also type in words that form compound words, prefixes and suffixes, etc. for students to practice matching apples. It would also be a wonderful tool for matching rhyming words, synonyms, antonyms, the possibilities are truly limitless since you can type in your own words. Another great feature: your words are automatically saved in the list even if you close the web browser so you don't have to re-type in the words or vocabulary each day. You can add, delete, or change words at any time. Such a cool tool!

5. One of those moments: Do you ever have one of those moments that make you go hhmhhhmm? Each week I read / skim many blogs to find topics that I can use for each Friday Five. This week I read a blog post about redefining cheating in this technological society. One of the most thought provoking points was:

Let's redefine cheating. Cheating is when a child doesn't contribute their strengths to a collaborative project. Cheating is when a child puts the responsibility of their learning on someone else. Cheating is when a child acts dishonestly in a way that takes advantage of others. Searching for an answer to a test using a mobile device is not cheating, it is a creative solution to a problem.

It made me go hhmhhhmm.... To read the rest go here:

<http://dreamsofeducation.wordpress.com/2010/08/04/redefining-cheating/>

Have a great weekend!!!